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# ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITS THIRTY-FIFTH SESSION

## Draft report

## Addendum

Rapporteur: Mr. Hisham ELZIMAITY (Egypt)

## PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1996-1997

### Section 1. Overall policy-making, direction and coordination

1. At its 28th meeting, on 6 June, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered section 1, Overall policy-making, direction and coordination, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997.

### Discussion

2. Many delegations endorsed the structure of the section. Some delegations questioned the structure of that section and stressed that a number of bodies listed, such as the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) and the Committee on Contributions, should not be considered policy-making organs but expert bodies rendering technical advice to the General Assembly and other main bodies.

3. Some delegations felt that proposed increases and decreases under the General Assembly, the Committee on Contributions, the United Nations Joint Pension Fund and the United Nations Board of Auditors should have been explained more fully in the proposal. One delegation felt that the level of resources provided for the Committee for Programme and Coordination, including staff

support, was not commensurate to its tasks. Another delegation stressed the importance of the functions of the President of the General Assembly and felt that resources should be allocated to enable him to take part in major events outside New York during his term in Office.

4. With regard to the provisions proposed for ACABQ, some delegations felt that the increase in the travel provision was excessive. A number of delegations queried the cost of airfares for spouses of members of ACABQ and stressed that the matter should be reviewed during the forthcoming session of the General Assembly.

5. Some delegations questioned the proposed increase in extrabudgetary posts, particularly since the staffing of the secretariat had already been augmented in 1992-1993. One delegation supported the level of resources for ACABQ and recalled the continued increase in the workload of the Committee as a result of reports requested by the General Assembly, in particular those related to peace-keeping operations. Some delegations stressed that additional posts for the ACABQ secretariat should be made available on a temporary basis.

## Conclusions and recommendations

6. The Committee took note of the narrative of section 1, Overall policy-making, direction and coordination, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997.

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